

FLIGHT PATTERNS



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INTRODUCING "FLIGHT PATTERNS"-- This is the first issue of National Capital Wing's newsletter, produced by the wing information office staff to keep you informed about the activities and accomplishments of CAP members and organizations within and outside the NCW family. Eventually, with your help, FLIGHT PATTERNS will develop into a newspaper. Commanders and information officers at all NCW echelons, members of the wing staff, and individual senior members and cadets can assist in this development by keeping the FLIGHT PATTERNS editor informed of newsworthy happenings. "But," says Capt. Hap Harris, Wing IO, "coordinate your news items with your unit IO---so he can include it in his monthly report and your unit will be given credit for it in the monthly and annual IO competition."

WHEATON-SILVER SPRINGS SQUADRON, commanded by Lt. Col. Charles X. Suraci Jr., ranked first in NCW and fifth in the nation in the 1965 IO competition. The IO for the squadron is 1st Lt. Mario Tursini, a photographer, writer-editor, and "idea man," according to his commander. He will receive an award from National Headquarters for his accomplishments in a public ceremony to be held in April.

CADET FLYING TRAINING QUOTA EXPANSION was announced following a meeting of the National Executive Committee this month. Last year's program was conducted at Elmira, N.Y., and provided flying training for 28 cadets---12 in powered planes and 16 in gliders. The program was restricted to male cadets in 1965. This year girl cadets are eligible too, and training will be conducted at three places---Chester, S.C.; Lawton, Okla.; and Elmira. In all, 148 cadets will be trained, 60 in powered aircraft and 88 in gliders.

NATIONAL CAPITAL WING will host the 1966 Middle East Region Conference next month at the Washington Hilton Hotel. All CAP senior members in the Region have been invited, and a large number of CAP corporate and member-owned airplanes are expected to arrive at local area airports. Members are urged to attend the business meetings and social functions planned for April 29-30.

THE GENERAL FOULOIS CADET SQUADRON got a new commander, 1st Lt. Lowell N. Overly this month. He replaced 1st Lt. Arthur H. Sayre who transferred to the Michigan Wing. Present at the change of command ceremony were the squadron's other former commanders, Capt. Harold "Hap" Harris and Capt. Harold L. Craven.

OXON HILL HIGH SCHOOL will be among the first schools in the nation to participate in the new high school-level Air Force Reserve Officer Training Program. Those students who have been or are now CAP cadets should have an "edge" on fellow-students who enroll in the program.

FLIGHT PATTERNS - March 1966

SOMETHING WORTH TALKING ABOUT WHEN RECRUITING senior members is the number of air search hours flown by CAP---20,673 in 1965. This was 75 percent of the total hours expended in air search during the year. This indicates that CAP has a great many pilots enrolled who don't subscribe to the "what's in it for me?" attitude.

BUT THERE IS SOMETHING IN CAP FOR THESE PILOTS---something, that is, besides the satisfaction of providing a worthwhile emergency service capability. They may apply for one of the FAA/CAP Orientation programs now being offered at the Federal Aviation Agency Academy in Oklahoma. These include the Flight Instructor and Pilot Orientation Programs and the Aircraft Airworthiness Orientation Programs. Flight Instructor and Pilot programs include ground and flying training in T-34 aircraft. The Aircraft Airworthiness program includes training in FAA inspection requirements, inspection cycles, maintenance procedures and applicable maintenance publications. T-34 aircraft will be used, but the program is applicable to all light aircraft. For more details see the next issue of CAP Times which should be in the mail early in April.

THE NATIONAL CAPITAL WING DRILL TEAM, directed by Lt. Col. William H. Rhodes, is scouting the squadrons for potential members who can help NCW win the Regional trophy again this year. Two cadet officers from the team visited the General Foullois Squadron recently, squadron commander Lt. Overly reports.

AN IDEA WORTH COPYING, and nothing new at that, is one used by a squadron in Wisconsin recently. The squadron distributed more than 800 CAP book covers to high schools in its area. Was the idea really worthwhile? Apparently, because requests for book covers are still coming in.

BUT THE EXAMPLE OF WORTHWHILE SERVICE is one of the best good-will and recruiting gimmicks possible, according to many commanders, and cadets enjoy doing something constructive. So here is something every squadron can do:

AMERICANS ARE FIGHTING AND GIVING THEIR LIVES FOR FREEDOM on the battlefields and in the skies over Viet Nam. Some of these---many, in fact---are former CAP cadets and senior members. All need our support. One way we can give them this support is by providing reading material for them. There is a real need for paperback books, new or used. The place to send these books is the 19th Air Commando Squadron. Full address is: Commander, 19th Air Commando Squadron, Box 2133, APO San Francisco 96307. Wonder which NCW squadron can collect the most books? A suggestion: Rubber-stamp each copy with unit designation so our men in Viet Nam will know that the cadets of your squadron appreciate their efforts. And let the editor of FLIGHT PATTERNS know what you accomplish.